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# AKRON TOPICS

*Formerly*  
THE WOMAN'S FORUM



Vol. II—No. 2

### *An Announcement*

AKRON TOPICS, beginning with this issue, will be published on the 1st and 15th of the month. All subscribers who subscribed at the old price of \$1.50 for twelve issues will receive the advantage of this change and Topics will be mailed to them twice a month until the expiration date of their subscriptions.

In order to give all our old readers who have not already subscribed as well as the new readers Topics will meet this month, a chance to subscribe at the old rate, we are offering one year's subscription of twenty four issues for \$1.50 to all those who send in their subscriptions before January 1st, 1924.





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## TOPICS

### THEATRES

November

19 Charles Rann Kennedy, Edith Wynne Matthison and Margaret Gage present "The Chastening" at the First M. E. Church Auditorium at 8:15 P. M., sponsored by the Epworth League Dramatic Society. Tickets at Windsor-Poling

19 "Passing Show" at the Goodyear Theatre with Willie and Eugene Howard

23 Stuart Walker players present three plays for children in the afternoon at four o'clock: "Six Who Pass While the Lentils Boil," "Sir David Wears a Crown," and "The King's Great Aunt."

At 8:15 P. M. Mr. Walker offers for adults: "Nevertheless," "The Trimplet," "The Medicine Show," and "The Gods of the Mountain." Both performances are at Perkins Auditorium. Produced under the auspices of the Dramatic Society of the University. Tickets at Temple Book Shop

26 A return engagement at Goodyear Theatre of "Little Nellie Kelly"

December

6 "Blossom Time" at Goodyear Theatre

12-13-14 "THE FOOL" at Goodyear Theatre presented by the Selwyns

### MUSIC

November

15 Sousa's Band—Afternoon and Evening

18 Mendelssohn's "Elijah" presented by Choir of Trinity Church in the Evening

24 The Duncan Dancers  
Alberto Salvi, Harpist, 8:15 P. M.

27 Emilio de Gogorza 8:15 P. M.

30 "Rheingold" by The Wagnerian Opera Company, Masonic Hall, Cleveland

31 "Die Walkure" by The Wagnerian Opera Company, Masonic Hall, Cleveland

32 "Figaros Hochzeit" by The Wagnerian Opera Company, Masonic Hall, Cleveland

33 "Siegfried" by The Wagnerian Opera Company, Masonic Hall, Cleveland

34 "Tannhauser" Matinee by The Wagnerian Opera Company, Masonic Hall, Cleveland

34 "Zigeunerbaron" by The Wagnerian Opera Company, Masonic Hall, Cleveland

35 "La Juire" by The Wagnerian Opera Company, Masonic Hall, Cleveland

## ANOTHER CUE

THIS isn't Q

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WHO is writing this

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BUT I know a

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THING or two

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AND I think

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THAT the person

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WHO reads this

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IS a pretty

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WISE bird

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IF he takes advantage

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OF the

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SPECIAL offer of

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TWENTY-four issues of

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AKRON Topics for

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THE small sum of

\*\*\*\*\*

ONE dollar and

\*\*\*\*\*

FIFTY cents because

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I HAPPEN to know

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THAT Akron Topics

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HAS made plans for

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A LOT of things

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WHICH you will want

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TO read and then

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YOU will have to

## CALENDAR

### ART

November

21 "Ecclesiastical Painting" discussed at 7:30 in the Art Institute by Mr. Parke Summer

21 to December 15 Loan Exhibition of Paintings owned by Akron people

December 15 to January 15 Exhibition of work by local artists

### CLUBS

#### University Club

November

17 Football Smoker and reports of football games

28 Dinner-Dance

#### Fairlawn Country Club

23 Bridge-Tea at the Club House

#### Portage Country Club

16 Amateur Stunt Night

28 Thanksgiving Dinner-Dance

#### Congress Lake Club

November

21 Luncheon-Bridge for Men. Mrs. J. B. Brothers and Mrs. Virginia Harrison hostesses

24 Saturday Night the men of the club will hold a coon hunt

28 Dinner Dance with Evan Jones' orchestra furnishing music

#### Woman's City Club

November

15 Informal Musicale 8 P. M.

24 Bridge-Tea and Book Shower 2 P. M.

29 Open House throughout the day

Tuesdays Mah Jongg lessons from 10 to 12 by Mrs. Effie Christy

#### Federation of Women's Clubs

26 Miss Marilla Freeman, librarian of the Cleveland Public Library, will speak on "Recent Poetry" in the Art Institute at 8 P. M., sponsored by the Literary Section of the Fine Arts Department of the Federation of which Miss Maude Herndon is chairman

### IN COMING ISSUES

"The Monroe Doctrine in 1923" by Elizabeth Thompson

"The Man Who Had Something to Say" (A discussion of Salesmanship for Parents) by Marjorie Barkley McClure

Letters from New York by Miriam Howell

What Does Your Child's Absence from School Cost?

Bus vs. Rail Transportation

City Planning and other articles



## TOPICS

### College Club

November

17 General Meeting and Guest Day at the Playhouse, 407 East Market Street, at 2:30. The Dramatic Section will present Eugene O'Neill's "Before Breakfast," Christopher Morley's "Thursday Evening," and Rita Wellman's "The String of the Samisen" under the direction of Mrs. Philip Chapin Jones

20 Current Events Section meets at Woman's City Club 2 P. M. Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson will speak

23 Health Section meets at Woman's City Club at 2:30. Miss Sarah Stimmel will discuss "New Phases of Nutrition"

### LUNCHEON CLUBS

#### Rotary

November

20 Better Akron Federation Luncheon  
27 Dr. W. C. Geer will speak at noon luncheon at Hotel Portage

#### Lions

20 Dr. L. Bottsford in charge of luncheon program  
27 Mr. Dale Robertson presents program

#### Exchange

28 Business Men's Orchestra play at noon luncheon

#### Kiwanis

29 Rev. George Cross Baner addresses club at noon luncheon

## Another Cue

PAY the two bucks

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AND a half

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WHICH will be the

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PRICE after the

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FIRST of the year

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SO if you want

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TO get the most

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A DOLLAR and a

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HALF can buy

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SCRIBBLE your

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JOHN Hancock to a

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CHECK for Akron Topics

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TODAY and look forward

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TO a whole year

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OF real enjoyment

\*\*\*\*\*

I THANK you.

## CALENDAR

### OTHER EVENTS

November

16 West Side Women's Better Akron Federation Luncheon in the Armory at 12:30. Miss Irene Seiberling will speak. Mrs. Ralph Wilson in charge

16 Better Akron Federation Dinner in the Armory at 6:30 with Short Program of Dramatic Episodes following Dinner. Dean Fred Ayer in charge

19 Dr. Lloyd C. Douglas gives the second of a series of talks on "The Life of Christ" in the Congregational Church Parlors at 7:30. The series is sponsored by the Educational Department. This talk will be timed to close before the opening of "The Chastening" at the First M. E. Church at 8:15

20 Miss Irene Hansen will discuss "Story of the Mind" at the Y. W. C. A. at 7:30 P. M.

21 Annual Banquet of the Chamber of Commerce at the Armory at 6:30. Senator Fess will be the speaker

21 Second Informal Dance at University of Akron

27 "Overcoming Handicaps" will be Miss Hansen's subject at the Y. W. C. A. 7:30 P. M.

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Subscribers changing their address are requested to send both the old and new addresses.



A charming garniture for sideboard or console table.

## ART POTTERY IN THE HOME

W. G. Wilcox,  
Manager of The Cowan Pottery Studio

*This is the first of a number of articles which will appear in Akron Topics covering Ohio's contribution to Art through her industries.*

THE past twenty years have seen a tremendous evolution in ideals and ideas as applied to the home. The day of the carefully sealed parlor with its particularly atrocious sea shells, its uncomfortable chairs covered with needlework, its walls presenting chromos of departed members of the family, is not so far off as to be beyond the memory of many of our readers.

Similarly the original idea, particularly in evidence during the brilliant "golden oak" age of the 1890's, was to cut a house up into as many small rooms as possible, the result being an almost perfect lack of livableness. Yellow pine, highly varnished was frequently much in evidence and it is very hard for us today to realize that house interiors were quite as bad as those were and that the "first fam-

ilies" of the smaller towns could not possibly think of building a house unless it had a tower on it.

Through the influence of better trained architects, through the development of better taste and from the educational effect of magazines specializing in this field there has been an astonishing change in interior decoration, in interior finishing, architecture and all those things which go together to make a home not only livable, but lovely.



These lovely little figures were modeled by Mr. Frank Wilcox and make particularly charming book ends for a child's room.

As a part of this evolution we have learned to tone down the wall surfaces, making use of the soft grays and neutral colors so that the wall becomes a perfect background for pictures, objects of art and fine furniture. Similarly, the use of deep Ivory enamel for the woodwork and neutral toned rugs has furthered this whole scheme of making



these large surfaces set off carefully planned groupings and settings.

This accomplishment, this education in taste and planning, immediately demanded that centers of interest be worked out in each room so as to relieve these large surfaces with their rather cold and neutral effects.

Such centers of interest are found in the use of furniture that is fine in design, interesting in finish and which fits into place perfectly and unobtrusively. The touches of color which immediately become necessary can be secured best by the use of pictures which are notable as studies in color, by flowers and with art pottery. The art pottery may be used for

two notable examples. This growing realization on the part of the public of the use of fine art ware, of its appeal and function, has been the final encouragement needed for the development in this country of potteries producing ware of fine artistic merit, beautifully made and commercially priced.

The history of the Cowan Pottery is not only an excellent instance of the type of civic service prevailing in Northern Ohio, but is also, in a way, the final proof of the tremendous strides made in the public appreciation of fine objects. The Cowan Pottery was founded ten years ago in the city of Cleveland, largely due to the encouragement and financial backing offered by such well known Cleveland citizens as



An excellent garniture of simple elegant lines. The figure flower holder in the compote is made in ivory porcelain and should be used with a stem or two of slender graceful flowers.

flowers or if sufficiently good in both design and color may be used without the flowers. The essential difference between decorative glass and art pottery should be pointed out here. Decorative glass can be used as an example of fine design but because it is transparent it cannot be used for a mass of color. Art pottery can and should be used for both purposes—for the combination of line and color.

This trend in interior decoration has served to give to the American Art Potter, the encouragement and incentive necessary for him to succeed. This can best be understood when it is stated that prior to 1915 practically every attempt to produce in this country a very fine American made art ware was a financial failure with a possible exception of one or

Mr. Francis Fleury Prentiss, Mr. Louis Rorimer, Mr. Maurice Black, Mr. John L. Severance, Mr. Jephtha H. Wade, Mr. Homer H. Johnson, Mrs. Stevenson Burke, Mr. Paul Feiss, Mr. Jacob Cox, Jr., Mr. F. E. Drury, to mention only a few. This assistance was offered concretely through Mr. Homer H. Johnson then president of the Chamber of Commerce of Cleveland to Mr. R. Guy Cowan whose work had already attracted such favorable attention as to persuade this group of people that his abilities should be supported and fostered.

From 1913 to 1917 the efforts of the Cowan Pottery were largely spent in the production of individual pieces of real artistic significance and value. Among the notable work done by the Cowan Pottery

during that period may be mentioned the interior tile work of St. Agnes' church, Cleveland, the interior tile work of the Cleveland Art Museum, together with further groupings in some of the more notable Cleveland homes and the like. In the city of Akron a very fine piece of work consists of fire places, tile wainscoting and tile floors in the home of Mr. Frank Seiberling. There were also installed at this time Della Robbia panels for the Bock residence in Toledo. During this time Cowan Pottery was producing the only fine hand made tile produced in the United States.

Those who have seen any of these examples of the work of the Cowan Pottery will realize each of these constitutes a notable achievement in the history of American Ceramic Art. It was not felt, however, that this type of work fulfilled the greatest usefulness of the Pottery and this feeling on the part of Mr. Cowan together with a growing demand for Cowan creations led to methods for producing large numbers of pieces of the same design. This in turn permitted the sale of these pieces at really commercial figures and made possible the wider distribution and wider enjoyment of the products of this Pottery. This is regarded as one of the most constructive achievements of the Cowan Pottery. It has been actuated by the feeling that the production of art objects made with sincerity, with real artistic feeling in them and priced at figures within the reach of most people constituted a type of service that was very real and very lasting. The

past few years have seen this demand grow until today the Cowan Pottery maintains wholesale show rooms not only in New York, Boston, Chicago, Kansas City, and Los Angeles, but also in Toronto, Canada. The several illustrations accompanying this article are for the purpose of indicating to our readers some of the possibilities in the use of ware of this type. The first plate shows a most interesting small comport setting to be used either on a small dining room table or on a narrow mantel. The bowl is not only pleasing in design but extremely unusual and with the candlesticks offers one of those small "points of interest" of which we have spoken. Another plate shows a very notable setting where the Ivory figure is used to hold a branching artificial cherry branch. The whole grouping is extremely interesting in composition and one which will add considerably to a distinctive hall grouping when used on a console table under an Italian mirror. Another illustration gives some idea of a number of pieces useful as large spots of color for relief or for beautiful settings. The lovely little figures shown in the second plate which were modelled by Mr. Frank Wilcox, well known artist of Cleveland, are particularly charming for book ends for a child's room.

Ten years ago most American art ware was thick, crude and glazed with various types of dull or matt glazes. There was being produced in England, however, by the Ruskin Pottery, by the Royal Doulton Pottery and by the Lancastrian Pottery, very

(Continued on Page 10)



"A piece of beautiful pottery in a room confers a certain distinction like the presence of some notable personage."



# THE SPORT OF MOVING

Lloyd C. Douglas

PERSONS who have always dwelt serenely beneath their ancestral roof will find these words without meaning. Certain of life's sterner trials must be experienced to be fully understood. But if one accepts some tasks as a game to be played, it lightens the burden.

Having recently passed again through this ordeal, we are in a position to offer a few timely hints, hot off the griddle, concerning the sport of transferring one's household effects from one residence to another. For sake of clearness, these suggestions are tabulated.

In the first place, then, begin early to do some of your packing, if you would make this business interesting. For six weeks previous to the exodus, count that day lost whose low descending sun sees no important article of household use tucked away in some remote, inaccessible spot where its presence cannot be detected. Be prepared to answer, cheerily, all such family queries as, "What has become of the dictionary? Has anyone seen my shoes? Where do you suppose the whisk-broom has gone to?"—"I'm afraid, my dear, it's been packed."

At least thirty days before the event, start three piles going in the attic, labelled, respectively, A, B, and C. Pile A should be reserved for things you are sure must be taken along; Pile B should be composed of things in debate, whether they are to go or not; Pile C must be restricted to all matters of junk which you propose to destroy. Every day, thereafter, canter up to the attic and transfer a few articles from A to B, and from B to C. It makes a pleasant little game; and, if the period of it and your efforts at it are properly synchronized, you should be able, late in the night preceding the great day, to have disposed, utterly, of piles A and B. In this manner, if you move frequently enough, you keep your establishment clear of useless accumulation. That is to say, this would be the case if the movers did not misunderstand and sweep it all up to add dignity and impressiveness to the rear elevation of the last vanload. Doubtless they do not wish your new neighbors to think you are coming into their community to make a spectacular display of your elegant equipment. And that is as it ought to be. Humility is one of the most staple virtues. Moving is a sure guarantee of it. I dare say if one owned the finest furniture in the world, the movers would arrange the display of it, at the tail of the cart, in such a manner that it would be mistaken by the public for a load of debris en route to the city incinerator.

Be sure you have enough boxes. Except for the smaller cartons, to contain jelly and other matters which may be tossed about carelessly, it is better to order the largest boxes to be had. The larger they are, the more you can and will put into them. To be sure, large boxes sometimes get stuck in doorways, but they can always be unpacked and lifted out through a window. This does not endear the family to the professional movers; but it may be supposed that these strong men are big enough to forget all about the matter, in time. It's a lot more fun, at the

other house, if you do not label any of the boxes as to their contents. You will have many pleasant little surprises in store—finding your overshoes in the roaster; and your ink-bottle in a tea-pot.

Customarily, the first thing to be packed in the bottom of the largest box is the screw-driver. Scientists in the field of moving declare this to be faulty technic. The screw-driver, they contend, should be carefully folded in your best party doilies, wrapped in tissue-paper, and secreted in the lower drawer of the guest-room high-boy. It is not very good cricket to pack china and kitchen utensils in too close proximity unless you separate these articles with padding. Almost anything will serve to keep them from doing violence to one another, in transit:—garments can be used for this purpose. They are easily pressed, later, in case they are in need of it. But, whatever you do, see to it that the iron-work of the scullery doesn't get to climbing about through the china; for, when you arrive at the new house, hungry as a wolf, you will want your skillet; and, because the movers will have toted that box to the attic, where the only electric lamp has expired, you take the risk of cutting your hands on the jagged pieces of your dinnerware, as you grope in the darkness.

A nice way to pack the smaller pictures is to wrap them in towels and stow them in chiffonier drawers. If, in the process of transportation, these drawers do not slip out, so much the better for the pictures. (In ascertaining how to spell chiffonier, I observe that the word's first meaning is "a receptacle for rags:"—exactly the place to put your laundry, when it returns from the works, all done up like a Christmas gift.)

Be deliberate as you play at this moving game. Much discomfort is experienced if the stricken household packs certain equipment too soon. Somebody has blundered if the family is obliged to eat its meals standing, about the kitchen-sink, longer than three days before the actual transfer is made to the new abode. Experience in moving makes people wary of packing the last of the dishes earlier than

the Friday preceding the flight. Some veterans in the game go calmly on, as if nothing was impending, up to the latest hour. Indeed, seasoned nomads are not infrequently awakened, on the morning of the momentous day, by the glad hurrah of the moving-men as they come merrily whistling to their honest toil. This blasé attitude, however, toward a matter of such importance, is not to be recommended. All things considered, it is just as well to be up, and dressed, when the vans arrive. The thing to keep in mind, however, is this: Don't be stampeded. These men are not going to crowd you too fast. You are paying them by the hour.

Do not become superstitious. A fellow once wrote an essay entitled "The Perversity of Inanimate Things." He was superstitious. He insisted that The Devil occasionally takes possession of inorganic matter, in certain of its forms, requiring it to do his bidding. This is, of course, mere heresy, and is not believed by our best people. But your faith will be sorely tried, at this point, when you move. The hammer that you put down, only thirty seconds ago, will arise, of its own free will and accord, and sneak quietly down to the basement, to hide behind the fruit-closet. The tack-lifter will crawl out of your pocket and scramble up on top of the clock. About this time, the movers will have tackled the piano. Unable to bear the sight of too much suffering, you will volunteer to lend a hand. Listen: don't do it. Let 'em sweat. If they are fewer than the piano, let them get assistance elsewhere. There are lots of people out of work. There are times when a piano, however sweet its disposition when things are proceeding normally in the household, makes some disclosures of its real character that are most depressing to them who love it most. And yet orators will speak of the Rock of Gibraltar as the least budgable thing in the world.

Finally—a few random suggestions. When you take the casters out of the legs of tables, beds, davenport, etc., toss them all together into one box, if you would like to add spice to the game when you arrive at the other end of the route. A good way to raise a merry laugh in the family, at the end of the long, weary day, is to announce that you have inadvertently locked the keys of the wardrobe-trunk inside the cute little top drawer of it. Nothing is more cheering, at such a moment, than harmless mirth which may easily be stirred by such declarations. If you are merely moving from one house to another, in the same town, it doesn't matter if you forget a few things at the time of the transfer. It is very simple to decide that you will convey them later, in your own car. Very simple, indeed. Before you are done with it, you may have come to think that of all the simple things you ever thought, this is, by all reckoning, the most simple. A garbage-can, for example, makes an interesting thing to leave for post-moving consideration. If you

should own a large steel basket, for out-door trash-incineration, better leave that, too, for future action: it makes an engaging passenger to haul through town. And should you possess about one hundred feet of lawn hose, don't, as you love a sporty bunker, put that into the van. Leave it to haul later. You will learn a great deal about hose, that you never knew before, when you undertake to stow it in an inconspicuous place in your car to make room for the furnace tools and the wheel-barrow. A step-ladder is also a funny little trinket to take out for a ride.

Some people, seeking amusement and recreation, go to Atlantic City, and pace the board-walk; some play golf, in all weathers; some go to the hospital and have something removed. All of these pursuits are worth a great deal to conversation. But give me a moving! Try it friends. Don't make a light, easy thing of it, treating it nonchalantly, as if it were of no significance. Make a game of it. Just toss things into the boxes as they happen to come to hand; don't try to remember exactly where you put anything; if the potato-masher wants to ride in your silk hat, don't be disagreeable about the matter. Pick out a nice wet morning, so your stuff will not get dusty, en route—and you're off with the old and on with the new! It's a lark! There's nothing else just like it in the whole world—which fact meets with my sincere approval.

P. S. Leave the keys to the new house in the left hind pocket of your overalls, hanging on a nail in the attic of your former residence. This is good for a chuckle or two when you arrive at your future home.

## NOVEMBERISH

By Frank Henry Doolittle

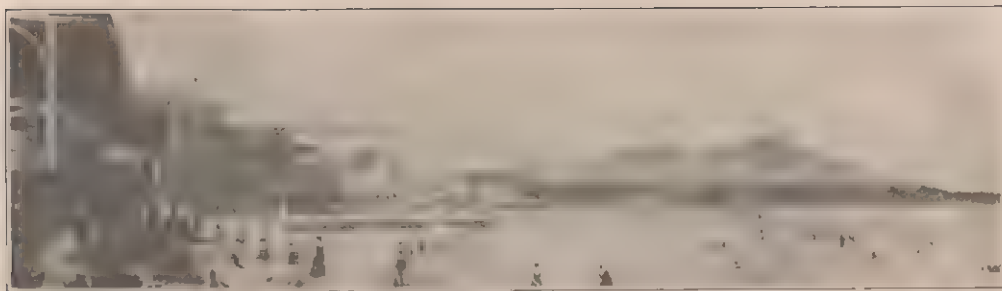
*All nude are fields where bumper yields  
Of grain, erstwhile, stood there;  
And corn is shocked at groves unforked.  
Wind chills the limbs, all bare,  
Of shameless trees through which, with breeze,  
Jack Frost, the wanton, toys.  
The naked hills are braving ills  
That turn to grief their joys.*

## AFTERMATH

Dorothy S. Kuenzli

*I did not heed the roses,  
Wine-fragrant and wine-red,  
But, heart and hands held chalice-wise,  
I sought for stars instead.  
The roses died with summer,  
And though the stars are bright  
They have not filled my empty heart.  
My empty hands, with light.  
If I had gathered roses  
My hands might well be torn.  
I would possess, for cherishing,  
At very least a thorn.*





Waikiki beach with the Moana hotel and Outrigger Canoe Club buildings at one end of the famous beach and historic Old Diamond Head, sentinel of Honolulu harbor, at the other. It is Diamond Head that first greets the traveler on the vessels of the Los Angeles Steamship Co. as they enter Honolulu harbor.

## HONOLULU---THE COLOURFUL WEST

Myra C. Case

*Illustrations furnished through courtesy of the Los Angeles Steamship Company*

**A**FTER six days of ocean travel, Honolulu loomed up before us like a jewel in its island setting. "Quiet Haven", as its name signifies, lay basking in the morning sun when our ocean liner neared port. The spires and roofs of the city scintillated between the green clad mountains in the distance and the clear blue water which lapped the beach at our feet.

The landing of a steamer is always an important occasion in the island city. Copper coloured boys browned by the Southern sun, dive here and there for coins tossed into the water by passengers while a vast array of people of many nationalities throng the long docks. It is always a colourful picture—the landing of an ocean liner. Many of the waiting throng carry leis or gay flower wreaths which, according to an ancient Hawaiian custom are placed around the necks of arriving friends. And above the noise of the greetings and bustle of disembarking, float the plaintive minor strains of the Hawaiian orchestra.

Honolulu, a modern city of sixty thousand people, has beautiful public buildings, good schools, libraries and many miles of excellent pavements. Its streets are a happy fusion of the East and West. Oriental fruit shops and booths stand side by side with the smart stores of the Occident.

Japanese and Chinese women in their bright native costumes, carrying their babies on their backs, tread the cosmopolitan streets and pass by Buddhist temples, Hawaiian churches and those of every denomination of the Christian faith.

The great meeting place of all Honolulu is the city market. It is a feast for the eye and equally appealing to the palate are the wares which are displayed. All the food stuffs of the island are placed before the shopper in tempting rows. Bright col-

oured fish, wrapped in green ti leaves, ready for cooking, tara roots, from which the Hawaiians make poi, their main article of diet, foreign nuts and tropical fruits make a rare kitchen bouquet tempting indeed to the housewife of any nationality. The strange mixed odors of unusual fruits and flowers and the sounds of many languages spoken at the same time, make the appeal of this market place alluring to the visitor.

Old Hawaii is rapidly passing and few natives of pure strain remain so one must seek the original manners and customs of these simple pleasure loving people in the Bishop museum where are preserved numerous relics and records of their primitive life.

Away from the heart of the city are many other fascinating points of interest. Waikiki Beach, reached by a delightful drive through flower and palm fringed avenues is the rendezvous of lovers of surf bathing and nearby is the aquarium, noted for its many varieties of fish. If one follows the same drive, he comes to the extinct volcano, Diamond Head, which stands, lofty and inspiring, on guard while the city rests at its feet. Beyond Diamond Head is Koko Head, another extinct volcano, and Makapuu Point on which is located one of the remarkable light houses of the world.

Perhaps the most inspiring peak within close range to the city, however, is the Punch-Bowl, another extinct volcano. From its crest one can look down upon the heart of the city. As one gazes, masses and masses of night blooming cereus are bursting into blossom and lifting their exquisite fragile cups toward the moon whose soft light they seem to reflect.

There is something mysterious and suggestive in

the black shadows cast by the mountains over the city and in the sudden gleaming and disappearing of lights on the mountain slopes. One can almost believe, while watching their weird play, the old Hawaiian legend that on a certain night of each year the conqueror Kamehameha marches his ghostly army along the faces of these hills and that all who see the glimmer of the spears in the moonlight and hear the trampling of feet must surely die.

No visitor to Honolulu fails to make the tour around the island of Oahu. Quite suddenly about six miles from the city, one reaches the Pali, a precipice twelve hundred feet high, over which the conqueror Kamehameha drove the army of the king of Oahu. This precipice reveals an unexpected and rare view. On the floor of the valley beneath the towering cliffs, acres and acres of pineapple fields, looking like variegated green patterns woven into the soil of the hillsides stretch away to the sea. After descending the Pali, the road winds along the coast and through quaint little villages gorgeous with hibiscus hedges, through plantations of sugar cane with the tips of the cane rippling like waves in the wind, through tara patches, groves of bananas, masses of wild guava and jungles of lantana. Very picturesque are the Japanese and Chinese farmers plowing the pale green rice terraces with their patient water-buffalos, the pleasure loving Hawaiians grouped about their lanais idly playing their ukuleles, and the Hawaiian fishermen casting their nets into the sea.

This is only one of the fascinating islands of this group lying close together in the Southern Pacific but its charm is the charm and appeal of the group. Their appeal clings to one after one glides away from their shores. In one's memory lingers the appeal of a lovable people through whose life a strain of sadness is woven and one recalls the plaintive cry among the pure Hawaiians as they say, "Since my country must belong to another, I am glad it belongs to the United States."



Ch Bowl Honolulu



The lighthouse on Diamond Head and a bit of the fern-cliffed drive leading to this vantage point offer the visitor one of the finest views of the bay.

## Art Pottery in the Home

(Continued from Page 6)

fine ware which was delicate and which was glazed with interesting glaze effects. At that time it was difficult in this country to find the manufacturing experience or the skilled workman necessary for producing the more delicate art ware glazed with brilliant and interesting colors.

It has been the ideal of the Cowan Pottery to produce in this country a standard of ware comparable with the notable achievements of the three English potteries which we have mentioned. Year by year this ambition came closer to realization and today the leading authorities on art pottery and art glass recognize in the product of the Cowan Pottery the attainment of this ideal.

In closing this article it will not be out of the way to quote verbatim from the well known art critic, Mr. Henry Turner Bailey:

"A piece of beautiful pottery in a room confers a certain distinction, like the presence of some notable personage. It represents one of the oldest and most potent crafts of mankind—older than the making of books, older than architecture itself.

"Made from the commonest of materials, its earlier forms have outlasted empires, and preserved a record of men who lived before the calendar was invented.

"The triumphs of prehistoric potters, of Egyptian, Sumerian, Minioan and Greek potters, of Persian, Indian and Chinese potters, of Etruscan, Spanish and Italian potters, of German, French and English potters, as great as they are, have not exhausted the possibilities of common clay. There is always room for fresh triumphs—and right here in the United States.

"The Cowan Pottery seems destined to add a beautiful chapter of its own to the august history of ceramic art."





From homes where America is merely a name girls come to the East Akron Community house for their first lessons in Americanism. In the atmosphere of clean sport and fun these girls are being taught great fundamental lessons. Visualize the foreign industrial settlement and imagine where these girls would be but for the help of the community house.

## BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

George P. Atwater

PERHAPS you noticed a statement in a newspaper, recently, to the effect that Cleveland might be passed in population by Los Angeles, and become the Sixth city, not the Fifth city.

The writer of the item was evidently distressed over the possibility.

Why in the world Cleveland should wish to have more people, rather than aspire to *better* people, is hard to understand.

We, in Akron, who take pride in our city, should never have the false impression that numbers are the essential thing in the eminence of a city.

We do not need more citizens, but better, happier, more useful citizens.

Everyone who lives within a city has an obligation toward it that can be discharged only by sharing its common burdens, and by helping to make it a better city, by reason of a care for its people.

No matter how independent a man may seem, he is indebted to his city for many of his satisfactions, for his means of livelihood, for the advantages that the massing of energy and service and brains and wealth bring to the entire group.

A good citizen is always a good neighbor. Many of us know what it is to have good neighbors. Good neighbors do more social service than all the social agencies of the world put together. I have been impressed in going into homes of illness, and sorrow, with the outpouring of neighborliness. When one is sick a neighbor comes to assist. In times of distress a neighbor comes to comfort. In times of need a neighbor is at hand.

Good neighbors watch over each other's children; good neighbors protect each other's property; good neighbors share their blessings.

But when a city grows large we cannot always serve our neighbors in individual service. We have not the skill, or the time. So social agencies arise in

larger groups, to do for us what we would have done, but were unable to do in person.

Such social agencies are neighborliness in concentrated form. They are the expression of the concern of people, that their neighbors should be assisted in times of need. Social agencies are the spirit of neighborliness finding a way to serve the larger groups.

It naturally results that social agencies become strong and can do what single individuals could not do. They can serve groups that the individual could not reach. They multiply, therefore, the service of the neighbor.

Akron has a fine group of these social agencies. They are the power of neighborliness in the most effective form. And wisely Akron has determined that we shall all have the privilege of sharing in the support of all its service. By the means of the Better Akron Federation, to which you are asked to contribute, you have a share in a vast number of acts of neighborliness. You touch the lives of countless children, you assist many in distress, you heal the sick and feed the hungry.

When you contribute to the funds of the Better Akron Federation, you may, with a good conscience, arise in the morning, and enjoy your blessings, and do your work, and take your pleasures. For your contribution has assisted to set in motion the thousand efforts that will be made that day, to bring your neighborliness to countless people. Akron becomes a better place in which to live, because of you.

No person who has the instincts of a good citizen and a good neighbor, will fail to give himself the joy and satisfaction that come from sharing the common burdens of our fellow men. Give your contribution to the Federation that stands for Better Men and Women and Children, in Akron, and rejoice that you may so effectively do good unto mankind.



# TOPICS



## AKRON TOPICS

**B**ROADER fields have lured us from the confines of our former name, The Woman's Forum, and Akron Topics has taken its place. In selecting the new title at the beginning of the second year, there was in our mind the purpose of the magazine—to reflect all constructive phases of Akron's life—and *Topics*, it seems to us, best expresses the breadth of Akron's community interests.

The very scope of her life affords a variety of material for a local publication and an inspiration lacking in a city of less complexity. There is no medium which reflects these varied activities, no clearing house for her many efforts.

The province of a newspaper is news, which necessarily prevents a more thoughtful discussion of diversified interests in relation to one another, possible in a community magazine.

It is this need which has created a place for Akron Topics. The same policy which guided The Woman's Forum, will direct Akron Topics in its broader fields.

## A FAIR DEAL

**T**HE first thing Akron must do in making the attempt to settle the problem of transportation is to decide whether the present Company should remain on the job or get out. If we are to have a brand new deal with a new company the problem changes at once. If we are to go ahead with the present system we must work out an equitable arrangement for the future.

Of one thing we may rest assured and that is we must have transportation facilities whoever provides them. Moreover we must pay for them. We cannot and must not hope to carry on permanently through any organization which loses money in the operation. We should face this fact and not try to dodge it. All the talk hitherto indulged about the capital value of the property is idle while we ignore the basic fact that business operating at a loss cannot be kept up.

At the present time The N. O. T. & L. Company is not breaking even even though nothing is set aside for depreciation or for any other purpose.

If the low figure on property value (Hagenah and Erickson—1918) be taken, as given by the firm brought here by the city, we have the tidy sum of \$4,641,816.00, which appraisal includes nothing for added equipment and betterments since that date;

and if 5% profit were allowed on this, it would amount to \$232,000. If there is an annual loss of some \$36,000, with no allowance for depreciation, another sum must be added, and we should probably be faced with taking care of an additional \$300,000 or more. Would not this in itself compel an increase in the cost of transportation?

A later appraisal, made by Prof. Richey for the city gives us a very much higher figure, and even that figure does not include values added since the appraisal was made. Thus on any basis possessing a value of fairness the city is faced with a serious problem.

What the city should demand is adequate service, increased equipment as needed, extensions called for by urban growth and proper control of all service and developments, fares, etc. It should give fair and just treatment of the company in return.

There is much idle talk about putting the company off the streets, of placing another company in charge, of replacing the present system with bus lines, and so on and on. As a matter of fact, we must have continuous transportation. To talk of another company is foolish. The present franchise expires ninety days from now. Where is the company which will buy out the present one? What price will be paid? Will the fare remain the same, and if there really is a loss now, what company will buy this property and agree to start out operating at a loss? If the company is ordered to remove its equipment what will be the condition of the streets while the tearing up process is going on? And how long will it be before new tracks and equipment are in?

If bus lines are established, how long will it be before the wrecked streets are in shape for the bus operation? And who will pay for the cost of placing the streets in proper condition following the removal of tracks and poles?

If bus lines are established, how many will be required to handle the traffic? Does any one know whether the rush hours can be handled properly with the bus? What of the present auto traffic when complicated by hundreds of added busses? Will all jitneys and every present bus be compelled to give way to a corporation running bus lines. If not, will the resultant competition warrant a company to come in? Will the city grant a provisional, a sort of test contract? And will it find a company willing to go in on such a proposition?





# OPINION



Dozens of questions arise when we begin to talk about other means of solving the big problem. Therefore, is it not the part of wisdom to go slow until the present Citizens Committee has had time to make a thorough survey and has reported to the public?

## A Representative at Court!

“COMMUNITIES possess the criminals whom they deserve,” said Lacassagne. “Society prepares crime; the criminal becomes its executive,” reflects Quetelet. Both were stressing community responsibility. In the last analysis it is the community that must impose the standard.

Sloth, apathy and indolence are all besetting sins in popular government, and the basic fault in democracy is that “What is everybody’s business is nobody’s business.” The public, in theory at least, applies its intelligence to the selection of its officials, and then goes on a vacation, forgetting that no device has yet been invented whereby the public can leave public matters entirely to public officials. Continuous public check, scrutiny, reform, praise, condemnation, election and discharge are both wholesome and necessary. The home, the church and the school must stress that ancient wisdom of the Son of Sirach who said, “He Himself made man in the beginning and left him in the hands of his own counsel.”

We spent a few days recently as a visitor in the municipal court of Akron with Judge Underwood on the bench. Later we had an interview with Judge Underwood in which he told us that vice in Akron is very well organized. Every social group and every underworld type maintains a representative or two at Police Court. Vice is the profession of these people and they have a selfish interest in the daily grist of the courts. They keep close tab upon the police, the judge and the prosecutor. They tie their fortunes to the “liberal” official, and their time, money and energies are selfishly directed against any sane and healthy law enforcement program. They fearlessly approach officials to remind them of the displeasure of the groups they represent.

To these unsocial influences must be added a large number of influences evoked by every arrest. This is when parents, children, relatives and friends rally loyally to the rescue. The powerful dynamic agencies released simply by a single arrest oftentimes envelop respectability, and men with spotless reputa-

tions, whose motives could never be doubted, appear to plead for leniency, liberality and even stultification of justice. These are some of the conditions that constitute the atmosphere, the stage, as it were, upon which judge and prosecutor often find themselves almost lonely actors.

To counteract these influences, Judge Underwood suggested that the right-living and right-thinking people of Akron should have some personal representatives at court, to mix with the police, as does organized vice, to inspire and encourage the prosecutor, to bolster up and encourage the law-enforcement judge, and last but not least to learn what is happening and to report back to society the true condition of affairs.

Your public officials are simply a part of your community, influencing, it is true, but in turn influenced by its standards. The whole community must share the praise or blame for the moral and intellectual standards of its administrations of the laws. It is a responsibility which should rest upon each one of us, to interest ourselves in the municipal house-keeping, and in so far as the courts are concerned, to help build up that unescapable influence of the atmosphere, the traditions, the ideals, the ambitions and standards of all that is best in Akron.—E. S. Jones.

## Father John Davey

THE world has lost one of its great naturalists with the passing of Father John Davey. But he has not left us without a rich heritage.

More than twenty-five years ago, an idea took definite form in his mind—the preservation of trees through surgical treatment. Out of a great love for the out-of-doors and a reverence for trees as the noblest of nature’s creations, the dream took form and in less than a generation the ideal has become a science. Perhaps more than any other man in our country, he has been responsible for the nation’s interest in the preservation of trees and the appreciation of trees as a valuable asset to mankind, both economically and spiritually.

No longer is our measure of greatness the rich conquests of a military leader or the vast accumulation of wealth by an able financier, but rather it is the persistent, painstaking struggle towards the realization of an ideal which will leave the world the richer for one’s living. It is this which places Father John Davey among our great Americans and makes his passing a great national loss.

## ALIBI ARTISTRY

I'ed E. Ayer

THE American people are a nation of Whyers.

Our continued study of science and its application to industry has developed within us an interrogation point as long as a bayonet. We expect that every time we make a statement someone is going to challenge us with the pass word of science, "Why?". And because every one who opens his mouth must defend it, I mean the utterance not the mouth, we have fallen into the habit of accompanying each utterance with its whyfore.

Akron is now confronted with the task of raising \$400,000 for its different social organizations and this immediately imposes the burden upon approximately 165,000 people of thinking up a good reason why they will not contribute. This is an imposition. First, because a lot of these people are men and married and have all that they can do in the way of thinking up excuses without this extra burden. Second, a lot of us have been very poorly equipped for the process of thinking upon any subject. Therefore I think that it will be a distinct help to society in general for me to provide a series of legitimate and plausible excuses which can be hurled at the solicitors without fear of successful contradiction.

First I should like to urge every one not to make use of those old truthful excuses which are sometimes given by the thoughtless such as, "I am too stingy", "I am too selfish", etc. Second, do not say that you would gladly give to this or that agency but will not give to the Federation as long as "such" an organization is included among its beneficiaries. Because if you do, the solicitor is going to tell you that you can make your whole contribution to your favorite agency. That is just how mean those solicitors can be. Those are all the "don'ts", now for some of the alibis.

1. I am not going to contribute because there is an item in this year's budget for Japanese relief. We are going just a little too far in our antagonism to the Japs and I'm not going to help in anything that has to do with relieving this country of the hard working little yellow men. Let the immigration bureau solve its own problems.

2. No donations for hospitals for mine. Only a couple of years ago, a fellow that boarded with a friend of my sister's told of a man she heard about who was sent to the hospital with a broken leg and they wouldn't admit him until he told them his name, and at the Children's Hospital, I've actually seen children put out of doors and left to lie right there in their beds in plain sight of the passers by.

3. I'll never give a cent that is going to the Salvation Army. I'm against all this military stuff.

4. I don't want my money to go to the negroes, or the Jews, or the Catholics; I'm for a great big, universal federation that is broad-minded enough not to include any one who does not believe as I do.

5. Never a cent for Cuyahoga Falls. I was arrested there once for speeding. The fact that Cuyahoga Falls will donate twice as much as she will receive makes no difference to me.

6. I see that the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A. are in. You certainly do not expect me to support the whole alphabet, especially those letters that are so seldom used as "Y" and "W".

7. Nothing doing on the Red Cross, yellow is my favorite color.

8. No use for a Travelers Aid Society. Let the railroads take care of that work, they are operating at a loss anyway.

9. I have no use for the East Akron Community House, I live on North Hill.

10. Not as long as you have a Social Service Exchange. I know a family that could have had relief from four different organizations if that Exchange hadn't butted in.

11. "Thousands of dollars for courts and reform schools and not one cent for the Scouts," is my motto.

12. And this is the last one. It will knock the solicitor cold every time. Tell him that you prefer to dispense your own charities and then go out and give the newsboy a nickel for Christmas.

If for any reason you do not care to use any of these alibis, go out of town during the campaign week, and when you come back complain to your neighbor how poorly the soliciting was organized and that you were never even asked to pledge.

## LESS SMOKING!

THE very practical question, "What can we do individually to prevent so much smoke in Akron?" faces us since the winter season is full upon us.

We glance across the street at our neighbor's chimney pouring forth volleys of thick black smoke. It penetrates our doors and windows and, after due season, it coats our walls, our furniture, our floors, the whole interior of our homes and offices.

Of course we sigh and wish we didn't live in a factory city. We blame all the conditions upon the factories. As a matter of fact, fifty per cent of our soot-fall originates in our neighbors' chimneys, in our own, more than likely, and in the composite whole of all residence chimneys in Akron. So it is very easy to answer our own question, "What can we do to prevent so much smoke in Akron?"

A good grade of Pocahontas coal goes a long way towards a maximum heat, minimum ash and little smoke but even a very poor grade of coal can be handled wisely with comparatively little smoke and wasted heat units.

Here are a few simple rules issued by The Smoke Abatement Committee of The Chamber of Commerce which may be followed with marked success:

#### STARTING FIRE

1. Clean grate thoroughly and adjust dampers for full draft.
2. Cover grate with coal to a depth of five or six inches, using *small size* lumps.
3. Place small amount of paper on coal, cover with *kindling*, and light paper.
4. Leave drafts on until coal is well ignited.
5. Leave slide in fire door open.

#### ADDING COAL

1. Shake out ashes.
2. Fire fresh coal on *low* side of fuel bed.
3. At time of next charging, repeat process, firing on opposite side of fire pot.
4. Never cover *all* live coals with fresh coal.
5. Leave slide in fire door open.

### Eradicate Bovine Tuberculosis

ONE of the important activities of the Akron Chamber of Commerce at the present time is the work of the Health Committee of which Frank C. Howland is Chairman in connection with the program to eradicate bovine tuberculosis in Summit County.

The State Legislature, at its last session, appropriated \$150,000 annually for two years and approximately the same amount is available from the United States government. These funds are to be used for trying to stamp out tuberculosis from the dairy herds in this state.

Reports show that bovine tuberculosis has been responsible for many tuberculosis cases in human beings, and children are more susceptible to the tuberculosis germs in milk. A number of states have made much larger appropriations than Ohio for this work.

The farmers are requested to sign petitions agreeing to cooperate in the movement. Petitions are now being signed in Summit County.

The Chamber of Commerce is cooperating in this movement and the County Commissioners have agreed to pay 25 cents per cow toward the cost of the inspection. The Akron Pure Milk, Averill Dairy, Maple Valley, and White Rock Dairy Companies have each also agreed to pay 25 cents per cow for the herds which are furnishing these companies milk. There may be an additional small amount which the farmers will have to pay to cover the cost of the testing.

## —We are in the Utility Business—

For many years this Company has operated city street railway systems in Akron, Canton and Massillon for many years it has operated interurban lines between Cleveland and Massillon, between Akron and Ravenna, between Akron and Wadsworth, between Massillon and East Green, etc.

This interurban system reaches the important and industrial cities of Cleveland, Bedford, Cuyahoga Falls, Kent, Navarre, Akron, Kenmore, Harborton, Wadsworth, North Canton, Canton, Mass, on Rockfield, Navarre, Beach City, Strasburg, Dover, New Philadelphia, Midvale and Erie, etc.

This Company also serves the following cities and towns with electric power and lights:

By retail Akron, Kenmore, Harborton, Macedonia, Twinsburg, Aurora, Kent, Tallmadge, Uniontown, Green town, Hartsville, Snow, Munroe Falls, Mogadore, Congress Lake, Meyers Lake, Brady Lake, Springfield Lake and Lakewood.

By wholesale Cuyahoga Falls, Northfield, Ravenna, Dalestown, Wadsworth, Silver Lake and the Portage Lakes, etc.

#### THE BUSINESS IS STEADILY GROWING

In the last few years there has been much talk, particularly in this section of Northern Ohio, that the city street railway systems and the interurban lines would soon be supplanted by buses. Part of this feeling is possibly due to the fact that this company is operating city bus lines in Akron and Canton and an interurban bus line over three routes between Akron and Cleveland.

But experiments so far made do not warrant the statement that bus lines will supplant electric lines either in city or interurban service.

It is certainly true that bus service is the more expensive to provide under the same conditions as electric car service. We have learned this by experience.

But whether buses supplant the electric cars or whether they do not, please remember one thing:

This Company is in the transportation business. When the time comes for the bus to take the place of the street car, if it does, we will still be in the transportation business operating buses. We will furnish the kind of transportation desired to meet the public need.

It is perfectly consistent that the properly organized transportation company SHOULD continue in business to supply *ADDITIONAL* service for the people. Urban and interurban transportation cannot be successfully run as in a haphazard way by a dozen or more operators in one city or territory. All of which brings us to the point that

Investments made by this Company are not going to be scrapped. We are not going to take the stockholders' money and throw it away. It is invested so we can safely assure payment of the interest return pledged. There are not going to be any heavy losses in investments made in developing this transportation system.

Transportation, light and power is the business in which this Company is engaged, and we are going to stick to it. Remember this when you are making investments.

## The Northern Ohio Traction & Light Co.





## THE GARDEN

Mary I. Johnson

ONE of the results of Garden Week, April 22-28, was the generous offer by The Beacon Journal, the Evening Times and the Akron Press of a bird bath to each of the three public schools showing the greatest permanent improvement to their grounds this season.

The schools entering the contest were: Bowen, Findley, Firestone Park, Forest Hill, Glover, Harris, Jennings, Leggett, McEbright, Mason, Portage Path and Robinson. Of these Harris, Leggett and Firestone Park won bird baths, while honorable mention was given Forest Hill, McEbright, Mason, Jennings and Glover for praiseworthy efforts. The contest was under the general direction of Mrs. T. A. Chittenden, chairman of the Garden Committee of the Home and School League.

Harris School is one of which any city should be proud, and yet is such a school as is possible to any community, given good taste and the proper spirit. A pleasing brick building is enhanced by a planting, designed to be effective the year round. In front, evergreens, a well-clipped privet hedge outlining one section of walk, a clever planting of cannas against the sides of steps to parallel this hedge, and gladioli at the base of the building, with a large bed of annuals at one side, give a trim and bright approach to the building. At the sides, climbing roses are carefully racked up, and, on the corners, Boston ivy softens the lines of the building. A charming and unusual background is given the school by its playground—an old orchard, perpetuated last spring by the planting of twenty fruit trees. Here is two seasons' beauty, dainty blossoms in the spring and glowing fruit in the fall. Twenty grape-vines are carefully tended by the fifth grade children, each child claiming a vine.

The community spirit, so marked on North Hill, is evident in the history of this planting. The money was earned by a flower festival given by the pupils, bulbs and flower seeds were donated by the Home and School League, the planning of this effective planting was done by the principal, Miss Bessie Cursman, and the children helped Mr. George Martin, the janitor, set out the plants. Also, the grounds

are kept spic and span and the planting given constant care by Mr. Martin and by the pupils refraining from carelessly damaging it in their play.

Leggett and Firestone Park have settings of substantial shrubbery. The League of the former was able to put quite a large sum into shrubbery; because the pupils cleared and prepared the ground. This planting will gain in beauty every year. Firestone Park, which has an unusually commanding site, put in exceptionally large and hardy shrubs, viburnums for the most part, which they got for a very small sum from a local estate, which was being thinned. Their bird bath will serve the school at all seasons; for it has been placed for the winter in the entrance, and filled with paper whites and water plants.

At McEbright the pupils should have especial credit; for their planting was done with the proceeds of their thrift campaign.

A clever "stunt" was tried at Glover School at the cost of not more than a dollar; for annuals were used profusely and with brave effect.

A beautiful feature of Mason School is a memorial tree, planted in memory of a former pupil, Lionel Williams.

Some of our schools, such as Bowen, have peculiarly hard conditions to meet; large soot fall, poor soil, and the using of the grounds as a thoroughfare.

To return to North Hill, Findley School has a large corner planting of shrubs and an urn and bird bath given in honor of the principal, Miss Knapp.

Jennings has made a remarkable beginning under hard conditions; for it is a very large building, so indented as to present difficult planting problems as well as an unusually large planting area. Also, due to necessary grading, planting this year could be done only at the base of the building. This was bravely met by Mrs. Roy Knox of the League, who wisely provided for the future by enriching the soil with humus and placing hardy shrubs and vines in the angles of the building. Hydrangeas are well used in a court.

A difficult site has been developed thoughtfully at Forest Hill School. A very flat piece of ground has been lent interest by a long perennial border at the back, plants for which were brought by the women of the League from their own gardens.

Mrs. Chittenden is tireless in her efforts for the progressive development of the school grounds by the League. Next year, she hopes to plant many bulbs, which count for permanency and increasing beauty. An example of the efficacy of such a plan in Seiberling School, where one of the teachers encouraged the pupils to save their pennies to buy crocus for the school grounds. Surely this will pay large dividends of beauty.

This same progressive development is the policy of the School Board, which is carrying out an efficient program under the direction of Mr. Frank D. McIlroy. Last year, development work was done at Leggett and McElbright Schools; this year, at Harris, King and Mason.

It is the policy of the Board to provide dry playgrounds of gravel with a cinder base. All grading and construction work, as well as repair of the grounds, is taken care of by the Board. This past year marks the first concerted effort by the Board and the League "to make," in the words of Mr. McIlroy, "the school a beauty spot with a corresponding aesthetic influence on the child."

### *Nature Glimpses*

Margaret T. Smith

*"In Nature's infinite book of secrecy  
A little can I read."*

Shakespeare

#### **"THE MUD DAUBER"**

**H**UMILITY is a graceful virtue and not unduly affected by an eight hour day of activity on the part of most human creatures. A brief homily on the common "Mud Dauber" may inculcate a little humility and may be—the moral atmosphere is in danger of ruin—entertaining.

The "mud dauber" is a Solitary Wasp. That is to say there is no colony with a fertile queen who lays eggs and infertile workers who care for the colony. Each female makes her own nest and provides for the eggs. The male wasp is a negligible quantity in practical affairs.

The common "mud dauber" in spite of her name—she has to be sure a more aristocratic Latin one—is as elegant, delicate and finely developed as any thoroughbred. She is a slender, nervous creature of gleaming black, her body giving off, glints of green and blue. "Her eyes are large and like black beads, her black antennae curve gracefully outward, and her wings shimmer with a smoky blue, green and purple."

Her first accomplishment is masonry. She takes mud from pools and streams and mixing it skillfully with saliva makes a smooth, firm and weather tight

## **MRS. KATHERINE BRUOT**

*Teacher of Pianoforte*

*Coach for Singers*

878 West Market

Corner Portage Path

Phone Mam 1290

### *Millinery*

"DELIGHTFULLY DIFFERENT"

**JANE POWELL**

211 Second National Bldg.

Portage 4467



## **POLICE DOGS**

A house and garden are not a home until they are protected by their best friend, a police dog. I have some fine puppies with brains, beauty and breeding from best European and American stock. Farm raised, healthy, free from vermin. Can be seen at any time.

**EDW. F. SATTLER • 716 HILLSDALE AVE**



*"Who that has loved knows not  
the tender tale  
Which flowers reveal, when  
lips are coy to tell"*

BUI WER LYTON

**C**OLORFUL Flowers of the season — Chrysanthemums, Cosmos, Pompons and Roses — to enjoy in the home or as gifts.

## **Ahern's**

**AKRON'S GROWING FLORISTS**

*Greenhouses*

561 Bowery  
Phone Mam 555

677 W. Exchange  
Phone Mam 243

## THE WOMAN'S CITY CLUB



A corner of the Music Room, where the colours of blue, gold and ivory predominate



The Lounge



The Dining Room is done in grays, blues and bracks

It is seldom that an organization can start full blown, avoiding the gradual struggle from small beginnings, but such has been the happy fate of the Woman's City Club.

On the afternoon of October the twenty-seventh, the doors of the new club house at 115 South Union Street were thrown open to a membership of more than 1,300 women and their friends, a membership which has developed within a few months.

The first efforts towards the organization of the Woman's City Club were made last spring and so generous a response was given to the idea that within this brief period, a large membership and a club house fully equipped to meet the needs of its public and private affairs has materialized. The board of directors who have guided the growth and development of the organization are: Mrs. J. B. Looker, president; Mrs. R. K. Crawford, first vice-president; Mrs. D. S. Bowman, second vice-president; Mrs. A. F. Ayers, secretary; Mrs. A. T. Carnahan, treasurer; Mrs. Carl Sheppard, assistant secretary-

treasurer; Mrs. Ray Piero, historian; Mrs. A. B. Smith, house committee; Mrs. J. A. Kendall, membership; Miss Helen Wolle, entertainment; Mrs. R. M. Leggett, Mrs. Newton Noble, Mrs. Jerome Dauby, Mrs. Robert Saathfield and Mrs. E. O. Handy.

Some slight changes were made in the building selected, which was formerly the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Mason, and some redecorating, under the supervision of Mrs. H. E. Williams and Miss Margaret Miller, was done. On the first floor are the music and living rooms, the reception hall, dining rooms and service and on the second floor are bed rooms and two card rooms for private affairs while the third floor is retained as the ball room.

With full accommodations for luncheons, teas, dinners, and ample space for meetings of moderate size, it is probable that the club will become the center of women's activities in the city, a clearing house for ideas in club and social work and a source of great inspiration in the community.

cement. This is fashioned into a foundation upon which is built a cell about an inch long and one-eighth inch thick, smooth inside. The only trowel she uses are her jaws. This accomplished she searches until she finds a spider that satisfies her instinct. Without hesitation she stings her victim in one or more of the ganglion of the ventral nerve-cord. This merely paralyzes the spider and it is stored in the cement cell. This operation is repeated until the cell is almost filled, then an egg is laid on the store of provender and the cell is sealed. More cells are added, more spiders paralyzed and more eggs laid until her duty to Life is completed.

Because this absolutely untaught duty is the rigid following of the instinct that, developed by the countless generations that preceded her in the process of selection, it is a thing to regard with wonder and with reverence.

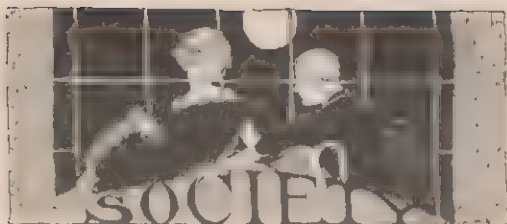
As far as we know she knows nothing of the

reasons. The larva wasp requires fresh meat and the helpless living spider solves the problem. A dead spider would decay, and an uninjured one would certainly injure the egg, but where the knowledge of the nerve centers came and the surgeon's skill to apply it is one of Nature's mysteries.

The egg hatches into a whitish grub. It eats its providentially provided food supply, weaves a silken cocoon, changes to a pupa, and some time later emerges a full grown wasp which cuts a hole in the cell and flies away.

Kellogg says, "The individuals of one generation do not even see the commencement of life of the next. . . . Were such a solicitude displayed by ourselves, poets and moralists would vie in its laudation, but having dubbed ourselves the higher animals . . . we exterminate their species from the face of the earth without even seeking to make a prior acquaintance with them."





**K**ING WINTER is here again! His long gray shadow trails across sky and earth, throwing in relief the gaiety and colour of the festive season approaching.

The fireside has once more come into its own. Soft mellow lights and the crackle of fragrant logs weave again their magic spell as friends gather in their hospitable glow.

Mr. and Mrs. James D. Tew of Hudson have returned from a three weeks' hunting trip in New Brunswick.

Mr. A. H. Noah had as guests the latter part of October, Captain Buckleton of Liverpool, England, and Sir Arthur Graham Smith, president of the Northwestern Rubber Company, Ltd., also of Liverpool.

Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn R. Dibble and family have left for their winter home in Eustis, Florida.

Mr. Thomas J. Siebert will sail from New York November twentieth on the maiden voyage of S. S. Duiliu for Naples. From there he will start on a three months' trip through Italy, Egypt, Northern Africa, and Switzerland, returning by way of Paris and London.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Comey will occupy their new home in Hudson about the fifteenth of November.

Mrs. William H. Upson and daughter, Miss Julia Upson, are guests of Colonel and Mrs. G. J. Fieberger of Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Dayton A. Doyle, Sr., and son, Mr. Frank W. Doyle, are spending the winter in St. Augustine, Florida.

Mrs. G. H. Robinson of Boston, Massachusetts, is visiting her sister, Mrs. J. D. Millard.

Mrs. John J. Starr, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Alfred Akers, and daughter, Miss Miriam Starr, have left for a three weeks' trip in the East.

They will visit Miss Betty Starr who is attending National Cathedral School in Washington, before going to Atlantic City and New York.

## Entertaining

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Mrs. Harold Watson Slabaugh  
(Miss Thelma Lewis)

Miss Margaret Wilcox attended the Princeton-Harvard game at Princeton, November tenth. She is spending a few days in Northampton, Massachusetts, before returning home.

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Stoner left by motor, November the seventh, for Winterhaven, Florida, where they will occupy their new home during the winter months.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold W. Slabaugh returned November seventh from a two weeks' stay in the East. Mrs. Slabaugh was before her marriage October twenty-fourth, Miss Thelma Lewis.

Mr. Charles W. Seiberling and son, Karnaghan Seiberling, spent last week hunting in Northern Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Young have returned to their home after three months' travel on the Continent and in England. Miss Catherine Young, who accompanied them, has returned to Cornell where she will resume her work in the History Department.

Mrs. Raymond Ferris was the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Farr in Philadelphia a few days last week. Dr. and Mrs. Farr were former residents of Akron.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Barnhart, formerly of Akron, are now residing at Ria Vista-on-the-Halifax, Florida. Mr. Barnhart is associated with the Hardesty Realty Company.



Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Mell (Miss Josephine Seiberling) with Miss Janet Allen, officiating for the wedding ceremony.

Dr. and Mrs. L. E. Sisler and Miss Lois Sisler left November seventh for a ten days' stay in New York.

Mrs. Harriet Miles of Grossmont, California, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Seiberling, Stanleywet Hall.

Mrs. Selden W. Anderson and sons, William and John, visited relatives and friends in Detroit, Michigan, last week.

#### INITIAL MEETINGS

The first meeting of the St. Cecilia Club season was a bridge-luncheon at Hotel Portage, October twenty-fifth, with Mrs. Harry Halfacre as hostess. She was assisted by Mrs. E. O. Handy, Mrs. F. F. Dugan and Mrs. D. S. Bowman.

Fifty members of the Junior Charity League met at luncheon at Hotel Portage, November fifth, to discuss plans for the coming season. Miss Fay of the Y. W. C. A. gave a talk following the luncheon.

#### BORN

To Mr. and Mrs. Edwin W. Brouse, Tuesday, October ninth, a daughter Mary Adelaide.



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#### ENGAGED

Miss Mary Searles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Searles, to Mr. Thaddeus Biddle, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Biddle of Altoona, Pennsylvania.

#### MARRIED

Miss Ruth Jessie Akers, daughter of Mrs. Annie M. Akers, to Mr. Burchard Gates Thomas, son of Mr. N. E. Thomas, on October twenty-sixth.

Miss Josephine Frances Seiberling, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Seiberling, to Mr. Donald Charles Mell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin M. Mell, on October twentieth.

Miss Thelma Lewis, daughter of Mrs. Nellie Parker Lewis, to Mr. Harold Watson Slabaugh, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Slabaugh, October twenty-fourth.

Miss Lilla Emilie Riebs, niece of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Hollander of Monument Beach, Massachusetts, to Mr. George Plumer Lyder, son of Dr. and Mrs. Frank H. Lyder, October twenty-seventh.

Miss Olivia Smead, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Smead of Wade Park Manor, Cleveland, to Mr. Lawrence Andrew Reed of the Portage Country Club, November tenth.

### *The Recent Horse Show*

**T**HE second horse show to be staged in Akron by Troop E, 107th Cavalry, Ohio National Guard, was held at the Mounted Service Armory on Hickory street the evening of October twentieth with Lieutenant John Pfueger in charge.

It was arranged primarily to encourage an interest in good horsemanship and to promote good fellowship among the several cavalry troops in Ohio. So much interest, however, was shown by other owners of horses that it developed into a semi-military affair with entries from the stables of Mr. T. G. Graham of Kent, Mr. George Garrett of Ravenna, from the Firestone and other privately owned stables. Troop A of Cleveland, Troop F of Barberton and the Service Troop of Ravenna were represented.

Col. and Mrs. W. O. Lathrop of Cincinnati were the guests of honor. Col. Lathrop is the head of all the cavalry in the Ohio Guard. Mrs. Lathrop herself rode in two events.

Sixty-five different horses were entered, some appearing several times during the nine events of the evening. An unusually high standard of horsemanship prevailed throughout but the high jumping which reached six and a half feet, as against the usual five and a half feet record, called forth enthu-



Mrs. Clifford Smith  
with "Dainty Lady" and "Little Wonder"

siastic comments. There was keen competition in the Hunter class, also.

Among the winners of trophies were Miss Mildred Schneider who took the cup in the Ladies Three-Gaited Saddle Class, and Mrs. Clifford Smith who, with Mr. Harold Greenwood, won first place in the Pair Class. Mrs. Smith also appeared in the Three-Gaited Saddle Class riding Gordie G (owned by Lt. John Pflueger). Mr. John W. Miller took second ribbon in the Military Three-Gaited Saddle Class and Mr. Glen Stahl, the cup in the Saber Course. Troop E won third place in the Squad Competition.

Such a favorable reception was awarded the Horse Show that it is probable the event will be made an annual one of the early Autumn.

### *Women's Golf Season Closes*

A SUCCESSFUL season at the Portage Country Club for women players was brought to a close with a luncheon on October twenty-sixth. Mrs. N. O. Mather was reelected chairman of the Woman's committee for next year and Mrs. Ralph Leonard, Mrs. Elsie Kendig and Mrs. Mark Murdock were selected to serve on the committee with her.

By common consent the inter-club matches of the season just closed were pronounced a great success and plans were made to continue them next year, probably making them a permanent organization for the club.

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Mrs. John Herron, Mrs. H. P. Moran, Mrs. N. O. Mather, Mrs. W. J. Ruof and Mrs. Elsie Kendig carrying off golf trophies of the season, awarded at the closing luncheon October tw

*University-School News*

Dorothy Kuenzli

**D**R. EARL W. CRECRAFT, head of the political science and economic department of the Municipal University of Akron, has been asked to discuss "Cleveland's First Proportional Representation Election" at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association which will be held at Columbus next month.

Cleveland held its first election of this kind November sixth. Doctor Crecraft went to Cleveland to study the working of the plan directly.

The invitation came to Doctor Crecraft as a result of a previous investigation of this subject at Ashtabula, Ohio.

**O**N SUNDAY, October twenty-eighth, two members of the University faculty conducted religious services in or near Akron. Professor O. F. Olin, vice-president of the University and an ordained minister of the Universalist church, preached at Leroy as it is his custom to do. Dean Albert I. Spanton, head of the college of liberal arts and also an ordained minister of the Universalist church, filled the pulpit of the Universalist church at Cleveland. Dean Walter J. Bankes of the teacher's college preached both morning and evening at the South Akron Church of Christ. Professor Hezleton E. Simmons, head of the chemistry department, conducted the service at the First Universalist Church in Akron. Professor Amon B. Plowman, head of the biology department, delivered the sermon at the same church.

**E**NGINEERING students of the University recently made an extensive boiler test for the Read-Benzol Co. of the city. The tests were made under the supervision of Frank D. Clark and Fred S. Griffin,

instructors in mechanical engineering. Their purpose was to find the efficiency of a new stoking apparatus recently installed by the local concern and to compare the present results with those made previous to the installation. A whole day was devoted to the boiler test. Seniors and juniors worked in the morning. The work was continued in the afternoon by freshmen and sophomores. This is one of the many ways the engineering college is trying to serve the community.

**L** CERCLE FRANCAIS, local branch of the national Association of French Clubs will hold its next meeting this evening, November fifteenth, in the Woman's League rooms in the basement of Brice library at the University.

A pantomime by Miss Katherine Reed and Mlle. Bonfils will be the feature of the meeting, which begins at 7:30.

Everyone interested in French is invited to attend whether a member of French classes at the University or not.

**V**ARIOUS Hallowe'en activities marked the week-end following October thirty-first. Among the most out-standing affairs at the University were those of Kappa Kappa Gamma, Phi Mu, and the Commons Club.

Faculty members have a number of social occasions planned for the season. An old fashioned costume party given November third was an attractive initial event and brought together informally that interesting group of men and women who comprise our University faculty.

## The Chamber of Commerce

*Invited Member*

**U**NITED States Senator Simeon D. Fess will be the guest and speaker of the Akron Chamber of Commerce at its 16th Annual Meeting to be held at 6:30 P. M. Wednesday, November 21st, at the Armory.



Mr. Fess served as Congressman from Ohio from 1913-1921. He was President of the Ohio Constitutional Convention in 1910 and was one time, President of the Anti-

och College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Mr. Fess is the author of "Outline of United States History" and "American Political Theory."

President Jerome Dauby will preside at the Annual Meeting. Wives of members are invited to the dinner and there will be a special musical program. Reports will be made by the thirty odd committees.

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## MUSIC—ART—DRAMA

### *The Vose Collection*

IT WAS with regret that we watched the departure of the excellent collection of paintings which hung in the Art Institute from the twentieth of October until the first of this week. It was a notable collection and represented some of the rarest paintings in possession of Messrs. R. C. and N. M. Vose of Boston. Such artists as Sir William Beechey, J. B. C. Corot, J. F. Millet, Adolphe Monticelli, Ralph Blakelock, Emil Carlsen, Frank Duveneck, Elliot Daingerfield, and others of equal merit were represented in the collection.

Throughout the exhibition there was an excellent attendance. Especially noticeable was the increased interest among school children. On Mondays and Fridays of every week, those from the grade school came and all the children from Old Trail School visited the gallery on one occasion. Miss Calvin, in charge of art at Central High School, brought a group one afternoon and Miss Rhodes of West High with the Fine Arts Club of that school spent much of another afternoon in the gallery. The Y. W. C. A. Art Study Club were among others to attend.

This general appreciation of the Art Institute and its various offerings emphasizes the real place for such an institution in the community and the secure place which has been made for it by capable leaders in its short existence.

### *Local Exhibitions*

A LOAN exhibition of paintings will be opened to the public about the twentieth. These paintings are all owned by Akron people, some of whom are Mr. A. H. Marks, Mr. E. C. Shaw, Mr. A. H. Noah, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Galt, Mrs. A. G. Partridge, Mrs. Charles Dick, Mrs. Mary Williams, Mr. James Andrews, Mr. Carl Mishler, Dr. E. B. Foltz and the Bender Sign Company.

The first exhibition of local artists will be hung about the middle of December.

### *A Chaliapin Evening*

GREAT singers may come and go but Chaliapin, the artist, remains secure in his position of Master. When he made his first appearance in Akron, November first, in the Armory he gave an evening of consummate art as vivid in impression as the operas which he recalled by the dramatic interpretations of their themes.

Chaliapin is a great actor and a greater singer. With the shrug of a shoulder, the lifting of an eyebrow—his are great shaggy ones as rugged as his powerful personality—or the tense movement of his sturdy hands, he revealed the artist whose interpretation is deeply grounded in life.

Before his audience lived the devil-may-care Me-phisto laughing at the poor dupes of a whimsical king, the peasant dancing on the streets of Moscow, the Volga boatmen singing at they heave on their oars, the grenadier burning with loyalty to his emperor. Chaliapin sang as the composers of music must have dreamed of their interpreters singing and we listened as never before.

### *The Lions Entertain*

THE United States Marine Band played to a delighted audience at two concerts in the Armory, the eighth of November. The band was brought to Akron by the local Lions Club which is financing many undertakings for the care of Akron's blind.

The Lions throughout the state are undertaking this work in their various communities and the United States Marine Band is touring the state at this time under their auspices.

The Akron public responded generously and in turn heard an hour of delightful music by this—"The President's Own Band," organized one hundred and forty years ago during Jefferson's administration.

One of the most pleasing numbers on the program was the "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers" by Jessel. Arthur Witcomb was the soloist. As an encore he played "A Perfect Day," endeared to the Akron public by the late H. Evan Williams.

### *Van Gordon-Marshall Concert*

PERHAPS Cyrena van Gordon and Charles Marshall stooped a bit in the selection of their encores. We think they did, that they just fell short of contributing their best, but as to their art there is no question. The Akron public is critical, they appreciate the trend of modern music, the stereotyped is not altogether satisfying to them. This speaks well for our audiences but regardless of medium selected, they pay due tribute to the artists as they did to Cyrena van Gordon and Charles Marshall, November seventh.



### *Stuart Walker Is Coming*

"WHAT the modern theatre needs more than anything else," says Stuart Walker, who brings his famous Portmanteau theatre players to Perkins Auditorium, Friday, November 23, "is the thing that we have lost sight of to-day: the spirit of play—of make-believe." Mystery, youth, and romance are lost in too much unhappy realism on the stage. Business and social problems are presented with exactness and we usually go to the theatre to continue the worries of the day.

The Portmanteau theatre on the other hand stimulates our fancies and imagination. Their one act plays are little gems in exquisite dreams with a laugh in each one. Mr. Walker announces that his plays are presented to please all young people from "seven to seventy."

Beyond doubt the Portmanteau theatre is the most novel and significant theatrical entertainment that America has yet created. Simplicity is the keynote of its productions. The theatre is just what its name implies—a portable, collapsible theatre, which comes packed in ten boxes, and which can be taken apart, set up and packed again at three hours notice. The crates in which the scenery is carried form the stage floor; when set up the theatre discloses a completely equipped stage, proscenium, curtains, and a lighting system which raises the settings into the domain of magic. With Mr. Walker's extensive understanding of colour and light, and especially of light against pigment, he produces effects of great beauty and distinction.

Friday afternoon at four o'clock, November 23, Mr. Walker will present three delightful little plays for children: "Six Who Pass While the Lentils Boil," "Sir David Wears a Crown" and "The King's Great Aunt." Each of these plays is complete in itself, and at the same time is connected in theme and characters.

In the evening at 8:15 o'clock, Mr. Walker and his professional players will give "Nevertheless," "The Triplet" and "The Medicine Show," written by Mr. Walker himself and "The Gods of the Mountain" by Lord Dunsany.

The presentation of these delightful plays is a real contribution to the season's list of theatrical offerings. Many of us have journeyed to New York and have spent several hours trying to procure seats to Mr. Walker's little sanctum and to have this sanctum brought directly to our doors deserves our deep appreciation and our support.

The group of dramatic folk who are sponsoring the Stuart Walker appearance make up the Dramatic Study Club of the University, which is directed by Miss Carita McEbright. Mr. Hazen Kniffin is president and Mr. Paul Ruch, business manager. The sale of seats for the performances of Novem-

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"PASSING SHOW" with Willie  
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*Monday, November 26*

"LITTLE NELLIE KELLY"  
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*Thursday, December 6*

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ber 23 is in charge of Mr. Herbert Fletcher of the Temple Book Shop, where the seats may now be procured.

Mr. Fletcher has made a chart of Perkins Auditorium and has so arranged seats that each one will afford an uninterrupted view of the stage. With this new arrangement, reserved seats are being sold. The prices of the tickets are fifty cents for the matinee and \$1.00 and \$1.50 for the evening performance.

## "The Fool" at Goodyear Theatre

THE much discussed play, "The Fool," is coming to the Goodyear Theatre December 12, 13 and 14. This play has aroused the interest of clergy, labor leaders, financiers, employers of labor, state and city officials, authors, dramatists, and the great general public. It is one of those plays the critics were all wrong about. A failure was predicted by them but instead the play has swept the country, it has delighted its audiences, it is a real find in this time of almost no good plays.

In the August issue of The Woman's Forum, Dr. Lloyd Douglas gave his impressions of "The Fool" in an editorial. Other critics agree with him—that "The Fool" is well worth seeing, well worth planning weeks in advance to see that there may be no slip up on the appointed dates.

## The Chastening

THE coming of Charles Rann Kennedy, Edith Wynne Matthison and their protégé, Margaret Gage, in "The Chastening" at the First M. E. Church on the nineteenth, is an event to which we look forward with the keenest interest for we know the quality of the art of these three actors and the theme of "The Chastening."

The early life of Christ is ever appealing and in this particular version, Mr. Kennedy, who wrote the play also, has given a universal appeal by making this early story of Christ like the early story of any child and the struggle of the parents against the inevitable call of inspiration, a universal struggle of all mothers and fathers.

There is much that we could say of this very stirring drama but we have already written in a former issue at great length on its beauty and we feel that only an expression of gratitude to the Epworth League Dramatic Society and the committee, Miss Louise Wood, Mr. Carl Stover, Miss Alice Blair, Mr. Leroy Garver and Miss Evelyn Willits, for their splendid effort needs to be reiterated. Tickets are on sale at Windsor-Poling or may be procured at the door.

## Personalities

**M**R. WILLIAM STUHLER of the University Club is writing the score for the annual University Club Show to be presented early next spring. Mr. Stuhler is a Princeton man and when in college was a member of the Princeton Triangle Club, for whom he wrote a number of scores for annual shows.

**M**R. JOHN ROGERS of Fostoria, the largest amateur producer in the world, has recently commissioned Mr. Melyne Latta to write the musical scores for five plays. One of them is "Ma'amzelle," a popular success on Broadway three seasons ago. Mr. Rogers has purchased the rights to this play and when Mr. Latta completes the score, will produce it under a new title.

In order to adapt the drama to the musical comedy form, a number of changes were necessary. These were made by Mr. Gordon Lang, working in connection with Mr. Latta.

**M**RS. VERNON WILLIAMS, daughter of Mrs. H. Evan Williams, is now living in Akron and is devoting some of her time to the teaching of advanced music. Mrs. Williams was formerly assistant pianist to Ossip Gabrilovitch, Director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Miss Lois Sisler, a talented young musician, is among the pupils of Mrs. Williams.

**A**S A RULE, we are too close to our own problems. Economic and social, to get a perspective of them. When there comes into our midst one whose residence in America has not disturbed this perspective, whose observations are well grounded in the cultural life of Europe, he often interprets our problems with a freshness of vision that goes far towards clarifying our ideas of close-hand difficulties.

Dr. Edgar Dehn, a Russian from Riga, has this year been added to the staff of the University as professor of Economics and Sociology. With an old world inheritance, the intellectual influence of the best Universities of Russia and Germany and the added experience of seven years of service in war-torn Russia, he has indeed a background on which to cast in relief the modern questions of today.

There is nothing of the radical in his point of view but rather a full broad vision of the trend and significance of affairs. He understands English perfectly, speaks with facility, and finds association with Americans wholly congenial. He has recently become a member of the University Club.

His enthusiasm, first hand knowledge and experience give a vitality to his teaching which cannot but add to the strength of the Municipal University's position as an educational leader in the community.

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Ellen Fenlon Tobin

*A glimpse of  
Arthur Machen  
and some of  
his Books*

Do you recall in the early days of the War much newspaper talk about the spirit archers of Agincourt intervening for the British when they were hard-pressed at Mons? It was Arthur Machen's story of *The Bowmen*. So real was it in the telling that the soldiers themselves claimed they had seen the angels. Mr. Machen was finally forced to write to the papers denying its authenticity. The incident was closed, but his name remained. He had been writing for thirty years. The public had scarcely heard of him. Long neglect and then recognition (one of the few instances in which a literary master has been fully recognized in his lifetime). Republication of much of his work in this country during the past year has given us Americans a chance to know this writer, dubbed by enthusiasts an inspired being, and much the contrary by others.

In his two autobiographies, "*Far Off Things*" and "*Things Near and Far*," we are given an insight into his life and literary struggles. In "*The Hill of Dreams*," his masterpiece, spoken of in Carl Van Vechten's "*Peter Whiffle*" as the most beautiful book in the world, and by Mr. Machen as a "*Robinson Crusoe of the soul*," the hero, like Mr. Machen, finds solitude, isolation of spirit, and neglect in the midst of London millions. For years, Arthur Machen remained an obscure reporter on the *London Evening News*.

His novels and tales are strange. They deal with the occult, with terror, with ecstasy, with sin. One should expect them to be revolting, horrible. They are not. By his power of reserve, of suggestion of the terrible and evil rather than description, he calls forth an exaltation and mysticism that is exquisite in its beauty. His prose is simple and straightforward, but possessed of grace and the "perfect word" which he may have taken days to choose.

As well thru his mystic novels and his weird short stories as thru his autobiographical writings and his philosophy "*Hieroglyphics*," an American edition of which has recently appeared, we feel the spirit of a man, to whom things of earth are dull, but who has learned the way of escape.

Some of his works are:

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| "Chronicles of Clemency"—1888, | "The Bowmen"—1913             |
| "The Great God Pan"—1894,      | "Great Return"—1915,          |
| "The Three Impostors"—1895,    | "The Terror"—1917,            |
| "Hieroglyphics"—1902,          | "War and the Christian Faith" |
| "House of Souls"—1906,         | "Secret Glory"—1922,          |
| "The Hill of Dreams"—1907,     | "Far Off Things"—1922         |
| "House of Dreams",             | "Things Near and Far"—1923,   |
| "Dr. Stiggins",                | "Shining Pyramid".            |

*"Things Near  
and Far,"*  
by Arthur Machen.  
(Alfred A. Knopf.)  
Reviewed by  
Leona T. Kohn

ARTHUR MACHEN's bit of autobiography, appearing after a career of forty-two years, devoted mostly to writing, writing which meant struggle and labor, and no recognition, bears yet not a trace of rancour, of impatience, of malice. But fortunately for us, Machen was not motivated by compensation, if as he says, "my total receipts for these eighteen volumes, for these forty-two years of toil, amount to the sum of six hundred and thirty-five pounds." He explains his reason for writing anything at all as the same urge that makes men row till they are blue in the face, or climb frightful mountain peaks, "to make life tolerable, even entertaining, just as I add tomato sauce, Worcester sauce, pickles, beetroot, cucumber and salad to the cold mutton, to make *that* tolerable and even appetizing." Within the last few years, however, a deserved recognition has come, and one need but read this one volume to feel that, whether here be a misunderstood genius or not, here surely is a beauty and simplicity of the spirit that is at least the stuff of a genius.

In Machen's earlier autobiographical book, "*Far Off Things*," he gives in greater detail, in more logical sequence, an account of his early years. In this new work, he covers a longer period, but not in connected biographical form. Here is simply a natural setting down of various ideas bound up with events during his years of toil and ecstasy. There are many gaps, many unexplained omissions.

We are carried first to Caerleon-on-Usk, where the weird beauty of his Welsh country explains somewhat his lonely and happy wanderings in the woods and on the hills. Then comes London, where, working on a catalogue to be called "*The Literature of Occultism and Archaeology*" the young man is brought into contact with a curious world which points the way to his later books. While doing this and other odd jobs, he writes in his Clarendon Road attic. He does not possess a facility of expression. Writing is torment, effort, toil. He tells about the hazy glow, but nothing more definite, of what was to be the *Great Romance*, of how prologue and epilogue were written first, and not till several years later did something approximating his idea appear as "*The Chronicle of Clemency*." In all his writing, he wrote much and rejected more, "a heartbreak to every other page and the comment of the author on himself and to himself: 'You fool! Why do you pass your life in rending your heart, in trying to do

the thing you can't do?" These were years of solitude, of loneliness.

Then comes an alteration in his life. "Everything, of body and of mind, was resolved into an infinite and an exquisite delight." He cites occult experiences, but does not explain, does not justify. He merely relates with a simplicity, a penetration, and a sincerity that characterizes the whole of his book. Suddenly he tells us he is on the stage with no explanation other than that the stage "is a world of illusion certainly, but of a much less harmful illusion than that of plaster-Bagdad and fairy gold and the hall under the hill." Here and there are allusions to his journalistic work. The little he did in 1890 he compares with what he had to do for the modern paper, in which the women rule the whole paper "and the result is. . . the result as we know it." Comments there are, in droll and delightful manner, on Louisquinious dining-rooms, on taverns in France, on rambles in London, on reviews of his books, on indexing, on trapping fleas.

That part of the book which deals with his occult experiences may not please because of a certain obscurity, but then the reader will not find this the usual autobiography. It is rather an expression of experience, the work of a man whose spirit carried him above the pettiness of the daily life into a more satisfying, more charming world, where we are privileged to go with him.

### Miss Herndon Honored

MISS MAUDE HERNDON, librarian of the Akron Public Library, was recently elected president of the Ohio State Library Association.

Under Miss Herndon's administration the Akron library has made noticeable progress, having opened outside distributing agencies with stations at the Firestone clubhouse, the Goodyear clubhouse, in twelve schools, and a branch on Wooster Avenue which opened last week.

With the help of the library board, Mr. George Sherman, pres., Mrs. Jonathan Taylor, sec., Mr. M. M. Mell, treas., Mrs. Hermine Hansen, Mr. J. P. Dice and Mr. Hugh Allen, who devote their time and thought enthusiastically to the interests of the library without remuneration, Miss Herndon hopes to go on opening more branch libraries, school libraries, to give hospital library service and finally to develop a county library. The library now maintains a highly trained staff ready for this development.

Miss Herndon is especially interested in children. After her college and library courses she specialized in children's work, proved the directing of boys' clubs a success while connected with the Cleveland Public Library, and was instrumental in having a room set aside for children in the Akron library. She was helped in this particular achievement by financial aid from Mr. F. H. Mason, Mr. A. H. Noah, Mrs. Etta Work and Miss Anna Perkins.

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## Scattered Precincts

Aside from settling on a new traction franchise, raising the gas pressure, fixing up a new lighting contract, settling the telephone rate controversy, building a new sewage disposal plant, making the usual cuts in the library and playground budgets, and turning down any requests that might come in for municipal comfort stations, the new administration will be comparatively idle.

A number of Akron's male citizens are interested to learn whether the monthly bills from the Woman's City Club are to be addressed to the home or to the office.

The election returns prove that the women voters of Akron are not sex-prejudiced. The only woman running for member of the board of education received next to the lowest number of votes.

East Carroll Street has been paved for more than a year and was not torn up until late in October.

According to the Buchtelite, P. R. Kolbe is just as good a cook as he is a college president. Would it be impertinent to inquire whether he washes his own dishes?

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